



Stiltwalker Toby "Twist" Johnson entertained visitors at Shaw's Jammin' July 4th celebration.

Photos by Staff Sgt. Lee Watts



Above and below, numerous inflatable obstacles and bouncy castles were enjoyed by the younger members of Team Shaw.



Mr. Max McKee is part of the Center's display.



Olvey held up a bald eagle as
Oatland Island Education
lay at the event.



The "Freedom Craft Show," held at the Community Center, was part of the day's festivities.



Left, Buzzy the Bee, 20th Services Squadron mascot, greeted Riley, 4-month-old son of Senior Airmen Brandy, 77th Fighter Squadron, and Rob Cobana, 20th SVS.

Right, Sparky the firedog warned Buzzy and others at the celebration to practice good safety measures when dealing with fireworks.



Members of Boy Scout Troop 342, sponsored by the 20th Communications Squadron, did their part to keep Shaw beautiful during the activities. From left to right: Mr. Dave Yeager, Chris Harmon and Chris Wizda.

Shaw sharpens its skills



Photos by Staff Sgt. Nathan Bevier



Above, Senior Airman Arnoldo Castillo, 20th Component Maintenance Squadron fuel systems journeyman, performs an in-flight refueling operational check on an F-16 during a Phase I operational readiness exercise here June 30.

Left, Staff Sgt. Corgy Park, 20th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief, secures a travel pod on an F-16 during the Phase I last week. Travel pods are used by pilots to transport their personal items when they deploy or go TDY.

Team Shaw members show off green thumbs



Photos by Mr. Alexander Crosby

June's Yard of the Month in the Shaw Heights housing area was that of Tech. Sgt. Gregory Peterson (pictured above), 20th Component Maintenance Squadron, and his wife Judy. The winner in the Palmetto Heights area (right) belongs to Master Sgt. Clarence Foster, 20th Maintenance Operations Squadron, and his wife Susan.



Above, Staff Sgt. Chad Olexa (right) 20th Civil Engineer Squadron, his wife Nicole and son Andrew, are the winners of June's Yard of the Month contest for the Shaw Manor housing area. All three families receive a one-month membership to Club Shaw, a \$25 Commissary certificate, one large pizza and four drinks from Anthony's Pizza in the BX food court and a \$25 certificate from a local home improvement store.



Air Force Birthday Ball Coin Contest

Contest Rules

- Entries must be received by **4 p.m., Tuesday**.
- The coin will be silver. Cutouts or special coin shapes are allowed.
- Up to five colors are allowed on each side.
- The design must contain the date of event and the words "Shaw Air Force Base" and "Air Force Birthday Ball."
- All submissions must follow the guidelines for use of the Air Force symbol, if used. The guidelines are listed at <http://www.af.mil/airforcestory/usage.asp>.
- Entries must be submitted on official contest forms.

Electronic entries should be submitted to **eddy.fournier@shaw.af.mil**.

Paper entries may be placed in entry boxes located at the dining facility, Airmen's Center,

Club Shaw, 20th Support Center Building and the 9th Air Force commander's support staff office. Those interested can also submit entries to 1st Lt. Eddy Fournier, 20th Civil Engineer Squadron.

- All rules must be followed or the design will be disqualified.

- The contest is open to all military, civilians and family members at Shaw.

- All entries become the property of the Shaw Air Force Birthday Ball Planning Committee, which will select a winner.

- The winner will receive two free tickets to attend the Shaw 2004 Air Force Birthday Ball, set for Sept. 18.

- For more information, contact 1st. Lt. Eddy Fournier at **895-9623** or 2nd Lt. Rachel Rogers at **895-3522**.

Tips, tricks for increasing fuel efficiency

By Staff Sgt. Lee Watts
Editor

In summer months, many Team Shaw members will be making road trips. Whether it's a long drive across-country on vacation or a relatively short drive to the beach, gas is going to be guzzled.

During the summer, gas prices traditionally increase. To reduce the shock and awe of prices at the pump, here are some tips on how to get more miles for the money.

1. Keep tires properly inflated. The recommended air pressure is posted on the driver's door or in the glove compartment. Under-inflated tires cause drag. Over-inflation causes improper tire-to-road contact. Both conditions will result in abnormal wear. Remove snow tires in good weather. Deep tread and big tires use more fuel.

2. Plan out the day. Limit trips by running all errands at the same time or on the way to or from work.

3. Have a certified technician perform an engine and emissions analysis to ensure the engine is running at maximum efficiency. A well-tuned engine burns less gas. Get regular tuneups and follow through with routine maintenance. The right parts and fresh oil keep engines in top shape and as a result, more fuel efficient.

4. Avoid making quick starts or stops. To avoid jamming on brakes, stay a good distance from the car in front. When possible, slow down simply by easing off the gas instead of braking.

5. Maintain steady speeds; use cruise control on the open road. The faster a vehicle goes, the more gas is used. Speed limits have gone up around most of the nation, but drivers don't have to see their fuel consumption go up drastically as well. For example, driving at 55 mph rather than 65 mph can improve fuel economy by two miles per gallon.

6. Do not use an air-conditioner when driving in the city. Do use it on the open road rather than keeping windows open. Open windows create wind drag, straining the engine.

7. Use proper octane fuel. Higher-octane gas, which produces less energy, not only costs more, it also yields lower miles per gallon.

8. Don't let the engine idle more than a minute or two. Even on cold winter mornings, a car doesn't require more than a minute to get ready to go. Anything more and it's just burning up expensive fuel.

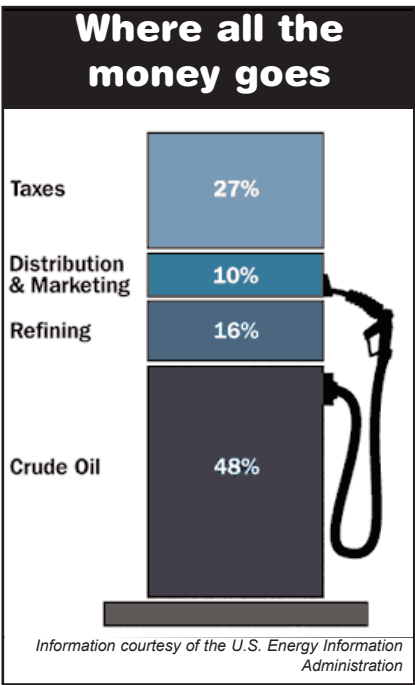
9. Today's vehicles run on a fine film of fluids. Make sure to service all fluids on a regular basis and in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Engine oil level should be checked at every fill-up.

10. Use an over-drive gear for highway driving.

11. Get the junk out of the trunk. A weighed-down car uses more fuel. According to the American Automobile Association, for every extra 250 pounds an engine hauls, the car loses about one mile per gallon in fuel economy. Carry only the basic emergency equipment and items really needed.

12. Pay cash or use a debit card at stations that charge extra for using a credit card.

13. Tighten up the gas cap. Make sure it's on securely. Buy a new one if the current cap doesn't fit snugly. Gas will evaporate from the tank if it has an escape.





Register to Vote

General elections are approaching and Air Force members are encouraged to vote. The Department of Defense recently announced a plan with the United States Postal Service to get absentee ballots to overseas members faster, but registering to vote is the first step to acquiring a ballot.

Deadlines and state specific rules on voter registration can be found on the Federal Voting Assistance Program web site at <http://www.fvap.gov>.

If Airmen have trouble registering online, installation voting officers will have a supply of federal postcard applications.

Contact information for Shaw voting officers is available at the MPF customer service desk.